

## Message Text

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ACTION INR-05

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 EUR-08 NSC-05 NSCE-00 CIAE-00

PM-03 DODE-00 SP-02 L-01 ACDA-10 /049 W

-----081534Z 114978 /44

R 081333Z JUN 77

FM USMISSION USBERLIN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4704

INFO AMEMBASSY BERLIN UNN

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMCONSUL MUNICH

USMISSION NATO

C O N F I D E N T I A L USBERLIN 1535

LIMDIS

E.O.11652: GDS

TAGS: PGOV, UR

SUBJECT: NEW DRAFT SOVIET CONSTITUTION

REF: A) STATE 130063,  
B) MOSCOW 7916

1. FOLLOWING ARE COMMENTS ON SOVIET DRAFT CONSTITUTION  
MADE BY SOVIET DIPLOMATS IN BERLIN:

2. AT RECEPTION JUNE 7, SOVIET CONGEN OFFICIAL AND KNOWN  
KGB CHIEF IN WEST BERLIN KOZOBORODOV TOLD MISOFF THAT NEW  
CONSTITUTION REPLACES " REVOLUTIONARY" DRAFT THAT KHRUSHCHEV  
SOUGHT TO FORCE THROUGH. KOZOBORODOV SAID THAT KHRUSHCHEV  
SEEMED GO WANT MULTI-PARTY DEMOCRACY IN USSR OR, AT  
MINIMUM, SEVRAL CANDIDATES FOR EACH POSITION IN ELECTIONS.  
IN HIS CUSTOMARY SARCASTIC VEIN, KOZOBORODOV ADDED THAT  
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OF COURSE WE CAN'T HAVE DEMOCRACY IN USSR. HE SAID  
THAT BREZHNEV HAD PUT A HALT TO ENTIRE EXERCISE AFTER  
KHRUSHCHEV'S OUSTER.

3. ASKED WHETHER UPCOMING " DISCUSSION" WOULD INCLUDE  
CRITICISM, KOZOBORODOV REPLIED " OF COURSE NOT." THEN,  
HE THOUGHT AGAIN AND REMARKED:" UNLESS IT IS CON-

STRUCTIV CRITICISM". ASKED FOR AN EXAMPLE OF " CONSTRUCTIVE CRITICISM.", KOZOBRODOV SAID THAT IF EVERYONE IN THE SOVIET UNION WERE TO INSIST THAT THE POSITION OF GENERAL SECRETARY AND CHAIRMAN OF THE SUPREME SOVIET SHOULD BE OCCUPIED BY THE SAME MAN, I.E. BREZHNEV, THEN THAT WOULD BE CONSTRUCTIVE CRITICISM OF THE PRESENT DRAFT.

4. IN A SEPARATE CONVERSATION SOVIET EMBASSY FIRST SECRETARY YUDIN TOLD RIAS EMPLOYEE THAT BREZHNEV IS AMBITIOUS, INTENDS TO BE HEAD OF STATE AND WANTS TO BE REMEMBRED AS THE MAN WHO CHANGED THE SOVIET CONSTITUTION . HE WANTS TO INHERIT STALIN'S MANTLE ACROSS THE BOARD. PODGORNY OPPOSED BREZHNEV AT EVERY TURN IN THIS SCHEME. SO WHEN PODGORNY WENT AWAY TO AFRICA, BREZHNEV CALLED THE POLITBURO TOGETHER AND INDUED THEM TO : 1) ADOPT THE NEW CONSTITUTION; AND 2) FIRE PODGORNY.

GEORGE

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptoning:** Z  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** PUBLIC DISCLOSURE, TEXT, CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS, INTELLIGENCE ASSESSMENTS  
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**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Sent Date:** 08-Jun-1977 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Decaption Note:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1977USBERL01535  
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**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
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**Office:** ACTION INR  
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**Original Handling Restrictions:** LIMDIS  
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**Reference:** 77 STATE 130063  
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**Subject:** NEW DRAFT SOVIET CONSTITUTION  
**TAGS:** PGOV, UR  
**To:** STATE  
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**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
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